

§ 679. Expenditure from appropriations for private telephone service

Except as otherwise provided by law, no money appropriated by any Act shall be expended for telephone service installed in any private residence or private apartment or for tolls or other charges for telephone service from private residences or private apartments, except for long-distance telephone tolls required strictly for the public business, and so shown by vouchers duly sworn to and approved by the head of the department, division, bureau, or office in which the official using such telephone or incurring the expense of such tolls shall be employed: *Provided*, That the cost of installation and use of telephones in residences leased or owned by the Government of the United States in foreign countries for the use of the Foreign Service may be allowed from Government funds, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of State, except that the restrictions in this section relating to long-distance tolls shall also apply to telephones installed in such official residences.

Aug. 23, 1912, c. 350, § 7, 37 Stat. 414; Apr. 30, 1940, c. 175, 54 Stat. 175.

Historical Note

1940 Amendment. Act Apr. 30, 1940 added the proviso.

Notes of Decisions

Local calls 1 Private residence 2

1. Local calls

Message unit telephone calls made within a particular telephone exchange area from private residence of Government employees are local and are within the prohibition of this section. 35 Comp.Gen. 615 (1956).

2. Private residence

This section prehibits payment from appropriated funds of any part of the expense of furnishing telephone service to a government officer or employee in a private residence irrespective of the desirability or necessity of such service from an official standpoint. 35 Comp. Gen. 28 (1955).

§ 680. Same; locks and dams

On and after September 22, 1922 the provisions of section 679 of this title, or any other law prohibiting the expenditure of public money for telephone services installed in private residences, shall not be construed to apply to or forbid the installation and use of such telephones as may be necessary for the prosecution of Government business in connection with the construction and operation of locks and dams for navigation, flood control, and related water uses, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Army on the